

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 2121, which requires the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to adopt water quality control policy containing principles and guidelines for maintaining in-stream flows on northern California coastal streams.

The SWRCB should begin developing this policy only if the \$1.5 million transfer from the Resources Trust Fund to the SWRCB pursuant to the 2004 Budget Act is made. If adequate funding is not made available to the SWRCB, then the work should be postponed until funding is available. As part of this comprehensive effort to develop guidelines for water right administration on northern California coastal streams, I urge the SWRCB to focus on the Russian River first. I am also concerned that the deadline in the bill is unattainable, even if adequate funding is provided, given the complexity and importance of adopting in-stream flow guidelines. I ask that the Legislature follow up next session with a bill to extend the deadline and provide additional funding as necessary.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger